



#5 2161

Patent

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Andrew Thomas, et al.) Re: Information Disclosure
Serial No.: 10/005,376) Statement
Filed: December 4, 2001) Group: 2161
For: "ENCODING AND DECODING OF) Examiner: not yet assigned
SOUND LINKS") Our Ref: B-4410 619360-7
Date: March 18, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. We are enclosing herewith a copy of each document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified).

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) include those cited in the British Search Report of United Kingdom Patent Application No. GB 0029804.2. A copy of the Search Report (1 page) is enclosed herewith.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-0415 \$180.00 (or

Information Disclosure Statement
USSN 10/005,376
March 18, 2002
Page 2

any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c); and this IDS should be fully considered on the merits, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, then the Commissioner is not authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 12-0415.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231", on March 18, 2002 by Suzanne Johnston.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard P. Berg
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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)
Copy of Search Report of GB 0029804.2 (1 page)
Copy of documents listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified)

Information Disclosure Statement
 USSN 10/005,376
 March 18, 2002
 Page 3



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Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	ATTY DOCKET NO. B-4410 619360-7	U.S. SERIAL NO. 10/005,376
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT	APPLICANTS Andrew Thomas, et al.	
	FILING DATE December 4, 2001	GROUP 2161

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE or 102(a) DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,945,989	8/99	Freishtat et al.	345	329	
	6,061,793	5/00	Tewfik et al.	713	176	
	6,163,803	12/00	Watanabe	709	217	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	11-110319	4/99	JP			
	11-119974	4/99	JP			Yes
	97/26733	7/97	WO			
	00/22772	4/00	WO			
	00/50984	8/00	WO			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Abstract of Japanese Patent No. 11-119974, published April 30, 1999, 1 page.
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 509; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.